



July 2012

Dear friends and supporters,

We hope this newsletter finds you well. The first half of 2012 has been full of change, growth, and successes at the International Justice Resource Center. We write to share our good news and keep you informed of new resources we hope will be useful to you or the advocates, activists, and human rights fans you know.

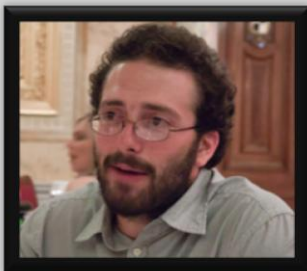


After a great first 18 months in Boston, this month IJRC set up our **new headquarters** in **San Francisco**, California. We look forward to maintaining our relationships and [activities](#) in [Boston](#), while becoming part of a new community in the Bay Area.

IJRC has been accepted into the [Rally Pad](#) non-profit incubator, where our Executive Director, law fellows and other volunteers can collaborate with and learn from other organizations making a difference around the world. Our new Rally Pad office space also comes with great mentors, lunchtime speakers, and event space.



And, we are so pleased to welcome **Adam Nord** as IJRC's **International Advocacy Director**.



From IJRC's satellite office in Johannesburg, South Africa, Adam is spearheading IJRC's efforts to guide and support grassroots organizations in their engagement with human rights monitoring bodies. In this role, Adam also produces practical and legal resources enabling grassroots actors to effectively access and use regional and international fora, and contributes to the overall advancement of IJRC's mission. Adam is an attorney with several years' experience working on human rights and civil society issues with local and intergovernmental organizations. You can see Adam's bio [here](#).

The first half of 2012 has also brought some changes in IJRC's leadership. We are thrilled to welcome [Professor James Cavallaro](#), founding director of the Stanford International Human Rights and Conflict Resolution Clinic, to the Advisory Board. And, early this year, [Beth Van Schaack](#) accepted an exciting appointment to the role of Deputy to the Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues at the U.S. Department of State, requiring her to take a leave of absence from the Advisory Board. Our [Board of Directors](#) and [Advisory Board](#) continue to play integral, invaluable roles in IJRC's successes.



As detailed below, other IJRC milestones this year have included our **first training for U.S. advocates** and the release of our much-anticipated **animated video on the Inter-American System** for the protection of human rights.

We continue to rely on the community of fellow advocates, friends, and supporters in fulfilling our mission. If you, or someone you know, would like to make a contribution, please visit IJRC's website to see some quick, easy ways to [donate to IJRC](#).

Thank you so much for supporting us during this crucial phase of IJRC's growth! We can't wait to bring you more good news at the end of the year. In the meantime, you can keep informed of IJRC's activities on our [website](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#).



Educational Video

In June, IJRC finished production of a 15-minute [video](#) tutorial and [manual](#), designed to educate advocates on the role and functions of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Inter-American Court of Human Rights, two bodies responsible for protecting human rights throughout the Americas.

The video, *Addressing Human Rights Violations in the Americas: Advocacy before the Inter-American System*, is the **first of its kind** and we expect it will make a significant contribution to grassroots advocates' understanding of, and effective engagement with, this important regional mechanism.

The [video](#) and [manual](#) are **available in Spanish**, and we hope to obtain funding for French and Brazilian Portuguese versions, as well.

The video's first four chapters provide an



Boston Training

On May 18, IJRC hosted an all-day training on the international human rights framework for advocates and attorneys based in the United States, co-sponsored by Physicians for Human Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts.

[Michael Greco](#), Chair of the American Bar Association Center for Human Rights gave the [opening remarks](#) to the crowd of over 40 participants. Panelists included UN Human Rights Committee member [Gerald Neuman](#), Professor [Martha Davis](#), and attorney [Lisl Brunner](#), among other experienced advocates.

We received **incredibly positive feedback** from the training participants, who included advocates working to:

animated explanation of the System and its components, the rights protected, how to present a complaint, and how complaints are processed. The fifth chapter features interviews with practitioners. See the [Video Guide](#) to follow along!

The video and manual can be downloaded free of charge from our website. For a **copy of the DVD** (containing both language versions of the video and manual), please email IJRC.

help immigrant workers organize for workplace safety and fair compensation, enforce the rights of persons with disabilities, and combat discrimination on the basis of race and religion, among other issues.

IJRC prepared a CD specifically for the training, which included our new [Handbook: Opportunities for Attorneys and Advocates in the United States](#), all the relevant treaty texts, and other useful documents. Please email IJRC to obtain a copy of the training CD.